

From: Educator Concerned
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/17/02 3:24pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Dear esteemed members of the DOJ ruling on the Microsoft case:

I would like to express my strong concern in the pending decision in the Microsoft Antitrust settlement.

I am a certified teacher and IT professional as well. I am equally comfortable on the Windows and Macintosh platforms. Simply put, letting Microsoft donate PCs, software, and money to schools is not a punishment, it is a reward. This is already a part of their business plan and would strengthen their monopoly on software in one of the few realms in which they were not the omnipresent player.

Apple has long been an advocate for education and has many technological initiatives in schools. If Microsoft wishes to try to create a monopoly in yet another area of business (education software, making Windows the dominant platform in schools), it is essential that they not be aided in this effort by the US government. This seems to completely reverse the reasons why Microsoft was taken to court in the first place.

I certainly hope that Microsoft decides, for philanthropic and not business reasons, to put time, money, and effort into helping education in the US. Microsoft should not be allowed to put software and money into schools as part of a plan to increase market share. Letting them do so would be completely counterintuitive. Thank you.

Sincerely,
A concerned cross-platform educator

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